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Letter dated 22 July 2016 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to paragraph 13 of Security Council resolution 2286 (2016), in which the Council requested that I provide recommendations on measures to enhance the protection of, and to prevent acts of violence against, the wounded and sick, medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, as well as hospitals and other medical facilities, and better ensure accountability for such acts of violence.

I wish to inform you that I have initiated consultations among relevant United Nations entities, as well as key non-governmental organizations and civil society groups involved in the provision of medical care and assistance in situations of armed conflict, in order to inform the content of the requested recommendations. I expect the consultation phase to be concluded by mid-August 2016 and my recommendations to be finalized shortly thereafter.

I propose to transmit my recommendations to the Security Council by the end of August, during the presidency of Malaysia, in an annex to a letter to the President. I stand ready to present these recommendations to the Council at its convenience. To this end, I understand that New Zealand, as a co-drafter of resolution 2286 (2016), is presently considering including such a presentation on the agenda of the Council during its presidency in September 2016.

I welcome again the adoption of resolution 2286 (2016) by the Security Council. Through this resolution, the Council demonstrated the willingness to address the critical issue of health care in armed conflicts, which is of increasing concern.

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

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